

Applicant : Takumi Nonaka
Appl. No. : 10/672422
Examiner : Richard L. Chiesa
Docket No. : 708493.4011

REMARKS

In the office action dated May 14, 2004, the examiner confirmed claims 7, 10, 14, 21, 23 and 27 were withdrawn from consideration, rejected claim 1, 3, 9, 11-13, 15-20, 22 and 24-26 and objected to claim 2, 4-6 and 8. The examiner stated that claims 2, 4-6 and 8 would be allowable if re-written in independent form and that claims 16 and 18-20 would be allowable if re-written in independent form and to overcome a rejection under 35 USC 112. Without acquiescing to any of the examiner's rejections under 35 USC 102/103, Applicants have cancelled claims 1 and 15, re-wrote claim 2 as an independent claim including all of the limitations of claim 1 and re-wrote claim 16 as an independent claim including all of the limitations of claim 15 and to overcome the 35 USC 112 rejection. In addition, Applicants have amended the dependencies of claims 9-12 to depend from claim 2, re-instated withdrawn claim 7 as it now depends from an allowable generic claim 2, amended withdrawn claims 10 and 14 to depend from allowable generic claim 2, amended the dependencies of claims 17, 22, 24 and 25 to depend from claim 16, re-instated withdrawn claim 21 as it now depends from an allowable generic claim 16, amended withdrawn claims 23 and 27 to depend from allowable generic claim 16.

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CONCLUSION

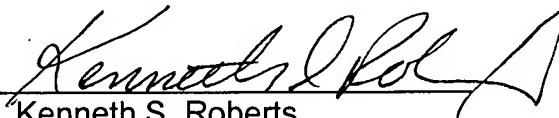
Applicant respectfully asserts the application is in condition for allowance.

Prompt and favorable action on the merits of the claims is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the undersigned can be reached at (949) 567-6700.

Respectfully submitted,

ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP

Dated: June 29, 2004

By: 
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